

Calidris alba* (Sanderling)*Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)****Class:** Aves (Birds)**Order:** Charadriiformes (Plovers, Sandpipers, And Allies)**Family:** Scolopacidae (Curlews, Dowitchers, Godwits, Knots, Phalaropes, Sandpipers, Snipe, Yellowlegs, And Woodcock)**General comments:**

Considered stable range wide, considered species of low or moderate concern by US Shorebird Conservation Plan, however high regional conservation priority. Information from Delaware Bay indicates a long term decline, so suggest a precautionary population trend of apparent decline but need more data to meet the significant decline criteria. Sanderling is on the "Watch List and needing Management Attention" by the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan Partnership - 2015 (Andres et al 2015).

Species Conservation Range Maps for Sanderling:Town Map: [Calidris alba Towns.pdf](#)Subwatershed Map: [Calidris alba_HUC12.pdf](#)**SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:****Risk of Extirpation: NA****State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern: NA****Recent Significant Declines: NA****Regional Endemic: NA****High Regional Conservation Priority:**

United States Shorebird Conservation Plan:

Species of High Concern

North Atlantic Regional Shorebird Plan:

Species of High Concern

High Climate Change Vulnerability:

Vulnerability: 3, Confidence: Medium, Reviewers: 2

Understudied rare taxa: NA**Historical: NA****Culturally Significant: NA****Habitats Assigned to Sanderling:**

Formation Name	Cliff & Rock
Macrogroup Name	Rocky Coast
Habitat System Name:	Acadian-North Atlantic Rocky Coast
Habitat System Name:	North Atlantic Cobble Shore

Formation Name	Intertidal
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Bedrock
Habitat System Name:	High Intertidal
Habitat System Name:	Low-Intertidal
Habitat System Name:	Mid-Intertidal
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Gravel Shore
Habitat System Name:	High Intertidal
Habitat System Name:	Lower Intertidal
Habitat System Name:	Mid-Intertidal
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Mudflat
Habitat System Name:	Non-Vascular Mudflat

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Stressor Priority Level based on Severity and Actionability	Moderate Severity	
	High Severity	
	Highly Actionable	Medium-High
	Moderately Actionable	Medium
	Medium-High	
	Actionable with Difficulty	Low
		Low

IUCN Level 1 Threat Biological Resource Use**IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources**Severity:** Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Highly actionable**Notes:** Habitat degradation from macroalgae harvest may be minimized through area closure and environmental permit review process.**IUCN Level 1 Threat Human Intrusions and Disturbance****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Recreational Activities**Severity:** Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Highly actionable**Notes:** Human related disturbance can be minimized through outreach programs, municipal beach management agreements, municipal ordinance such as leash laws and environmental permit review.**IUCN Level 1 Threat Natural Systems Modifications****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Other Ecosystem Modifications**Severity:** Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Highly actionable**Notes:** Habitat loss from rip rap, seawalls and dredging can be mitigated through environmental permit review process. Beach nourishment can be used to mitigate impacts from dredge projects.**IUCN Level 1 Threat Pollution****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Industrial and Military Effluents**Severity:** Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** Oil spill prevention can occur through contingency planning and environmental permit review. Impacts can be minimized through clean up efforts and compensation.**IUCN Level 1 Threat Residential and Commercial Development****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Housing and Urban Areas**Severity:** Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** Habitat loss from development can be mitigated through environmental permit review process.**IUCN Level 1 Threat Climate Change and Severe Weather****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Habitat Shifting or Alteration**Severity:** Severe**Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty**Notes:** Habitat loss from sea level rise and impacts to invertebrate prey base from ocean acidification may be severe. Conservation of upland areas may allow for intertidal areas to migrate inland as sea level rise occurs.

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None. *Only species specific conservation actions that address high (red) or medium-high (orange) priority stressors are summarized here.*

Conservation Actions Associated with the Shorebirds Guild:

Conservation Action	Category: Survey and Monitoring	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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Identify and map priority feeding and roosting areas including offshore habitats, and implement protection initiatives. Enter data in IFW ETSC database.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge, Industrial and Military Effluents, Housing and Urban Areas, Tourism and Recreational Areas, Commercial and Industrial Areas

Conservation Action	Category: Species Management	Biological Priority: high	Type: new
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Place symbolic stake and twine fencing around important beach roosting areas with signage to identify roosting areas.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Recreational Activities, Tourism and Recreational Areas

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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Work with the Maine Department of Marine Resources to conduct research to determine the impact of macroalgae harvest on wintering waterfowl

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources

Conservation Action	Category: Public Outreach	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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Provide outreach to pet owners, beachgoers, kayakers, beach managers, and landowners to raise public awareness on shorebirds and on the impacts of disturbance from recreational activities in coastal areas.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Recreational Activities

Conservation Action	Category: Habitat Management	Biological Priority: moderate	Type: new
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Use voluntary agreements, conservation easements, conservation tax abatements and incentives to protect important habitats

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Work and Other Activities, Recreational Activities, Housing and Urban Areas, Commercial and Industrial Areas

Conservation Action	Category: Survey and Monitoring	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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To determine population status continue monitoring program for SGCN shorebird species at high priority migration sites coastwide. Continue to coordinate with ISS, PRISM, Atlantic Flyway ESMP programs.

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Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
Identify prey resources in significant staging areas to determine potential limiting factors and optimal management techniques to promote these resources.			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
Determine length of stay at stopover areas, site fidelity, local movements and premigration condition to determine if coastal habitats are meeting shorebird requirements for successful migration.			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: moderate	Type: new
Determine limiting factors for SGCN shorebird species on breeding, migratory, or wintering areas.			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
Gain a better understanding of the extent and impacts of algae harvesting on staging and wintering shorebirds. Conduct longterm monitoring of ecosystem-wide impacts of cutting algae to determine potential impacts to shorebird habitats and invertebrate pr			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.